THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The details of outstanding credit of all commercial banks in Uttar Pradesh under priority sector for the last three years are given below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

As on the last Briday of	Total Priority sector	Of[1] which to:			
		Agriculture	Small Scale Industry	Setting up of Industrial Estate	Total Advances to other priority sector
March 1998	865459	305602	341231	55	210853
March 1999	961993	346186	370997	518	236193
* March 2000	1388707	404845	398180	83	297809

(b) No. Sir.

(c) A number of measures such as One Time Settlement, recovery drives. DRT cases etc. have been taken by the banks.

(d) Data as available from the convenor bank of Uttar Pradesh reveal that 16.95 percent of the advanccsare blocked in Non-Performing Assets in December 1999.14.30 percent in March 2001 and 14.03 per cent in June 2001.

Liaison officers for SC/ST/OBC

2340. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to stale:

(a)Whether some of the Department/Sub-ordinate and Attached Offices. Public Sector and Autonomous Organisations/Corporations under the Ministry of Finance are not nominating Liaison Officers for SC/ST and OBC as required under MHAOM No. 16/17/67-Estt. (c) dated the 10th April. 1968 (DoPTOM No. 36022/5/76 dated the 27th May. 1976) for ensuring proper compliance of Government instructions in the matters of reservations for SC/ST and OBC:

(b) if so. the names of such Offices/Organisations: and

(c) the names of Organisations which function as Administrative Units" under this Ministry and the Liaison Officers nominated as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VTKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shortage of small coins and currency notes

2.141. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that small coins and currency notes are not available in many parts of the country;

(b) if so. what are the reasons for this shortage: and

(c) what steps are being taken to improve the availability of coins and currency notes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VTKHE PATIL): (a)There are reports about shortage of coins in some parts of the country. However, there is no shortage of Bank notes in the denomination of Rs. 10/- and above. Printing of Bank notes of Rs. 5 denomination lias also been resumed during the current year for meeting the demand of smaller denomination notes.

(b) There has been a significant increase in the demand for coins during recent years. As against a demand of 6500 million pieces (MPCs) of coins during 2001 -2002. the four Indian Government Mints at Mumbai. Kolkata. Hyderabad and Noida have an aggregate capacity to produce 3700 MPCs of coins per year, thereby resulting in shortages.

(c) The Government has taken a number of steps to address the problem of shortage of coins, which *inter-alia* include the following :—

(i) The Indian Government Mints at Mumbai. Kolkata and Hyderabad have been modernised.

(ii) The bank note of Rs. 5 denomination has been reintroduced during the current year to meet the shortage of Rs. 5 coins.

(iii) The coins in denomination of Re. 1. Rs. 2 and Rs. 5 are also being imported to meet the gap between demand and supply of coins in the country.